



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/022,848	12/20/2001	Minoru Kadowaki	62807-025	1512

7590 12/19/2006
MCDERMOTT, WILL & EMERY
600 13th Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20005-3096

EXAMINER

LIU, I JUNG

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

3691

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	12/19/2006	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Continuation of Attachment(s) 3). Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08), Paper No(s)/Mail Date :12/20/2001, 04/22/2003, 03/17/2004, 08/26/2005, 06/16/2006, 07/28/2006 and 09/07/2006.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/022,848

Applicant(s)

KADOWAKI ET AL.

Examiner

Marissa Liu

Art Unit

3691

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 December 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 20 December 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>See Continuation Sheet</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being unpatentable by Awatsu et al., U.S. Patent Number: 5,777,304 (see PTO-892 reference A).

3. As per claim 1, Awatsu et al teaches an automated teller machine for performing a cash transaction, comprising:

a currency deposit/withdraw port for depositing/withdrawing a currency (see abstract and column 26, lines 12-16);

a discriminating unit for discriminating a currency (see column 17, lines 44-59);

a cassette (see column 9, lines 61-65) detachably mounted (see column 1, lines 25-32) with respect to said automated teller machine (abstract), for storing therein a currency (see column 14, lines 9-16);

a control unit (see column 17, lines 44-59) for storing therein operation information used to operate said automated teller machine in correspondence with a money sort of the currency stored in said cassette (see column 14, lines 5-17) which is set to said automated teller machine and for performing a control operation based upon said stored operation information (abstract and column 5, lines 30-63).

Art Unit: 3691

4. As per claim 2, Awatsu et al teaches an automated teller machine as claimed in claim 1 described above. Awatsu further teaches said control unit sets, or changes said operation information stored in said control unit (see column 4, lines 45-65, where “inputting set bill amount in the cash safe to the control section” is equivalent of “control unit sets, or changes said operation information stored in said control unit”).

5. As per claim 3, Awatsu et al. teaches an automated teller machine as claimed in claim 2 described above. Awatsu et al. further teaches said automated teller machine is comprised of:

a staff member panel for display thereon, which is operated by a staff member (see figures 5a-5b and column 9, lines 33-60); and said control unit sets, or changes said operation information (see column 4, lines 45-65, where “inputting set bill amount in the cash safe to the control section” is equivalent of “control unit sets, or changes said operation information) by using said staff member panel (see figures 5a-5b and column 9, lines 33-60).

6. As per claim 4, Awatsu et al. teaches an automated teller machine as claimed in claim 1 described above. Awatsu further teaches wherein:

said control unit acquires cassette information from said cassette which is set to said automated teller machine (see abstract and column 14, lines 5-17) and judges as to whether or not said acquired cassette information is suitable for said stored operation information (see column 14, lines 5-17 and column 19, lines 1-52).

7. As per claim 5, Awatsu et al. teaches an automated teller machine as claimed in claim 4 described above. Awatsu further teaches said control unit continuously performs the operation of said automated teller machine in the case that the judgment result is suitable for said operation information (see column 4, lines 30-39).

Art Unit: 3691

8. As per claim 6, Awatsu et al. teaches an automated teller machine as claimed in claim 4 described above. Awatsu et al further teaches wherein: in the case that the judgment result is not suitable for said operation information, said control unit notifies such a fact that said judgment result is not suitable for said operation information (see column 4, lines 25-40 and column 19, lines 1-9).

9. As per claim 7, Awatsu et al. teaches an automated teller machine as claimed in claim 1 described above. Awatsu et al. further teaches wherein: said control unit acquires money sort information (see column 5, lines 26-42) from cassette information (see column 14, lines 5-17) set to said automated teller machine (abstract), and judges as to whether said money sort information of the acquired cassette information is made coincident, or not coincident with said money sort information of said previously stored operation information (see column 15, lines 1-14).

10. As per claim 8, Awatsu et al. teaches an automated teller machine as claimed in claim 7 described above. Awatsu et al further teaches said control unit operates said automated teller apparatus based upon said money sort information of the operation information (see column 5, lines 26-42) when it is so judged that said money sort information of said acquired cassette (see column 14, lines 5-17) and information is made coincident with said money sort information of the previously stored operation information (see column 15, lines 1-14).

11. As per claim 9, Awatsu et al teaches an automated teller machine as claimed in claim 7 described above. Awatsu et al further teaches wherein: said automated teller machine is further comprised of:

a staff member panel for displaying thereon, which is operated by a staff member (see column 15, lines 1-14); and when it is so judged that said money sort information of said acquired

Art Unit: 3691

cassette information is not made coincident with said money sort information of the previously stored operation information (see column 14, lines 5-17), said control unit displays said a fact of "noncoincidence" on said staff member panel (see abstract, column 15, lines 1-14 and column 14, lines 5-17).

12. As per claim 10, Awatsu et al. and Hain et al teaches an automated teller machine as claimed in claim 1 described above. Awatsu teaches wherein:

said stored operation information (see column 3, lines 28-39) contains sort information of said cassette, which indicates as to whether or not said cassette exclusively stores therein (see column 14, lines 5-18 and column 15, lines 1-14) a currency deposited from said currency deposit/withdraw port (see abstract and column 26, lines 12-16), whether or not said cassette exclusively stores therein a currency withdrawn from said currency deposit/withdraw port (see abstract, column 15, lines 1-14 and column 26, lines 12-16), or whether or not said cassette stores therein currencies which are deposited and withdrawn from said currency deposit/withdraw port (see abstract and column 26, lines 12-16); and

said control unit (see column 17, lines 44-59 and column 5, lines 30-63) acquires such information corresponding to said sort information of said cassette (see column 14, lines 5-17), which is contained in said stored operation information (see column 3, lines 28-39), from into said automated teller machine (see abstract and column 15, lines 47-50); and also judges as to whether or not the operation is properly carried out based upon said acquired information (see column 4, lines 30-39).

13. As per claim 11, Awatsu et al. teaches an automated teller machine as claimed in claim 1 described above. Awatsu et al. further teaches said stored operation information contains

Art Unit: 3691

information related to a country which issues a currency (see column 14, lines 5-17); and said control unit acquires such information corresponding to the country information of said stored operation information from said cassette set to said automated teller machine (abstract and column 14, lines 5-17), and judges as to whether or not the operation is suitable based upon the acquired information (see column 15, lines 1-52).

14. As per claim 12, Awatsu et al. teaches an automated teller machine as claimed in claim 1 described above. Awatsu et al. further teaches wherein: said stored operation information contains discrimination information indicative of a range of a currency which is discriminated by said discriminating unit and said control unit acquires such information related to a currency stored from said cassette which is set to said automated teller machine (see column see column 9, lines 61-67, column 10, 1-55), and judges as to whether or not said currency information is located within a range of said discrimination information (see column 15, lines 1-14).

15. As per claim 13, Awatsu teaches an automated teller machine as claimed in claim 1 described above. Awatsu et al. further teaches wherein: said control unit continuously monitors, or monitors in a constant time interval the information related to said cassette set to said automated teller machine (see column 12, lines 45-65 and column 14, lines 1-49).

16. As per claim 14, Awatsu et al. teaches an automatic teller machine equipped with a currency deposit/withdraw mechanism for depositing/withdrawing a currency, comprising:

a main body control unit for controlling said automatic teller machine (see abstract and column 9, lines 50-60);

Art Unit: 3691

wherein: said currency deposit/withdraw mechanism includes a currency deposit/withdraw port for depositing/withdrawing the currency (see abstract and column 26, lines 12-16);

a discriminating unit for discriminating the currency deposited from said currency deposit/withdraw port (see column 17, lines 44-59);

a temporary storage unit for temporarily storing the currency discriminated by said discriminating unit (see column 11, lines 39-57 and column 12, lines 1-2)

a plurality of cassettes (see column 14, lines 5-17) for storing thereinto the currencies in accordance with said discrimination result (see column 11, lines 39-57 and column 12, lines 1-2) and also detachably mounted on said currency deposit/withdraw mechanism (see column 1, lines 15-35); and

also a control unit for controlling said currency deposit/withdraw mechanism (see column abstract and column 17, lines 44-59); said control unit of said currency deposit/withdraw mechanism to said currency deposit/withdraw mechanism (see column 4, lines 25-31 and column 17, lines 44-59) ; and

said main body control unit; said control unit acquires cassette information from said cassettes set; and also transmits said acquired cassette information (see column 9, lines 61-67 and column 10, lines 1-42), and also transmits operation information of said automated teller machine to said currency deposit/withdraw mechanism (see column 5, lines 26-40 and column 17, lines 44-59).

17. As per claim 15, Awatsu et al and Hain et al teaches an automated teller machine as claimed in claim 14 described above. Awatsu et al teaches either said main body control unit or

Art Unit: 3691

said control unit of the currency deposit/withdraw mechanism continuously monitors, or monitors in a constant time interval mounting/dismounting of said cassettes (see column 10, lines 30-41 and column 12, lines 49-65); which are set to said currency deposit/withdraw mechanism (see column 4, lines 25-31 and column 17, lines 44-59).

18. As per claim 16, Awatsu et al. teaches an automated teller machine as claimed in claim 15 described above. Awatsu et al. further teaches wherein: in the case that either said main body control unit or said control unit (see column 17, lines 44-59) of the currency deposit/withdraw mechanism (see abstract and column 26, lines 12-16) monitors to sense that said cassettes (see column 14, lines 1-39) are again reset, said main body control unit again transmitted from said control unit (see column 12, lines 45-65), and also judges as to whether or not said acquired cassette information is suitable for said stored operation information of the automated teller machine (see column 14, lines 1-39 and column 15, lines 1-15).

19. As per claim 17, Awatsu et al. teaches an automated teller machine as claimed in claim 14 described above. Awatsu et al. further teaches wherein:

said main body control unit acquires money sort information contained in said cassette information transmitted from said control unit (see column 14, lines 5-50), and also judges as to whether or not said acquired money sort information is suitable for said stored operation information (see column 15, lines 1-30).

20. As per claim 18, Awatsu et al. teaches an automated teller machine as claimed in claim 17 described above. Awatsu et al. further teaches wherein: in the case that said main body control unit judges that said acquired money sort information is suitable for said operation information, said main body control unit executes the operation of said automated teller machine

Art Unit: 3691

based upon said operation information; and in the case that said main body control unit judges that said acquired money sort information is not suitable for said operation information, said main body control unit notifies such a fact that said acquired memory sort information is not suitable for said operation information (see column 14, lines 5-50 and column 15, lines 1-30).

21. As per claim 19, Awatsu et al. teaches an automated teller machine as claimed in claim 14 described above. Awatsu et al. further teaches wherein: said control unit of said currency deposit/withdraw mechanism (see column 19, lines 38-52) acquires said operation information stored in said main body control unit, and judges as to whether or not said acquired operation information is suitable for said cassette information (see column 19, lines 1-52)

22. As per claim 20, Awatsu et al. teaches a centralized managing system comprising a plurality of automated teller machines; and a center apparatus for connecting said plurality of automated teller machines via a network to each other, wherein:

said center apparatus acquires and manages both information indicative of a currency range which should be handled by each of said plural automated teller machines, also information indicative of an amount of currencies which are stored in cassettes set to said plural automated teller machines (see column 14, lines 5-38 and abstract).


Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Marissa Liu whose telephone number is 571-270-1370. The examiner can normally be reached on First Friday OFF.

Art Unit: 3691

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Patrick James Nolan can be reached on 571-270-0847. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


MATTHEW S. GART
PRIMARY EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3800